

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1108  
By Hargett

A RESOLUTION to designate April 26, 2006 as "Tennessee Safe Kids Day on the Hill."

WHEREAS, accidental injury is the leading cause of death and disability among children ages fourteen and under; and

WHEREAS, nearly 5,500 children age fourteen and under die from accidental injuries each year, and 120,000 more are permanently disabled; and

WHEREAS, these injuries have enormous financial, emotional, and social effects on the children, the families, the communities, and society as a whole; and

WHEREAS, financial costs alone for accidental childhood injury exceed \$185 billion annually; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that as many as 90 percent of accidental injuries are preventable; and

WHEREAS, as we observe "Tennessee Safe Kids Day on the Hill," it is important to remember the many valuable contributions made by the late Robert Sanders, M.D., a true pioneer in child safety; and

WHEREAS, a Murfreesboro pediatrician who served as the Director and Chief Physician of the Rutherford County Health Department, Dr. Sanders led the call for national reform in child restraint laws; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Sanders and his wife, Pat, were instrumental in the passage in 1977 of the first mandatory child safety seat law in Tennessee, which was also the first law of its kind in the United States; and

WHEREAS, because of Dr. and Mrs. Sanders's passion for and dedicated efforts in service of child safety, all fifty states now have child safety seat laws; and

WHEREAS, Safe Kids Tennessee is part of a global campaign whose long-term goals are to raise awareness among children and families that accidental injuries are the leading health threat facing children today; build grass-roots coalitions to implement childhood injury prevention strategies in the community; stimulate changes in adult and child behavior, products, and the environment in order to reduce the incidence of childhood injury; and make childhood injury a public policy priority; and

WHEREAS, in this same spirit, Safe Kids Tennessee will be holding "Safe Kids Day on the Hill" on April 26, 2006; and

WHEREAS, their praiseworthy efforts on behalf of our young people will give children in communities around the world the opportunity for a safe and positive future; and

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly proudly join Safe Kids Tennessee, as well as concerned citizens across this State, to raise awareness of accidental injury, death and disability among children; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby designate April 26, 2006, as "Tennessee Safe Kids Day on the Hill" as we join with Tennessee Safe Kids in working toward a safe and positive future for all children.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.